ADDITIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORDS FROM FIVE WESTERN UGANDAN FORESTS

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Between July and October 1987, the authors visited seven of the major tropical forest areas of western Uganda in order to investigate their bird, and also their butterfly, faunas. Records from two previously unstudied forests, Itwara and Kasyoha–Kitomi are dealt with in a separate paper (Buckley & McNeilage 1989). In the present paper we list new records from the five other forest areas that we visited. In the case of four of these forests, papers by Friedmann & Williams (1969, 1970a, 1970b, 1971), written as part of the biological survey by the Los Angeles County Museum, comprise the most up-to-date information. The forests of the Rwenzori have been studied by a variety of authors (Ogilvie-Grant 1910, van Someren & van Someren 1949, Weekes 1949, Masterson 1981). The reader is advised to refer to these references to assess the state of knowledge at the time of our visit. Friedmann & Williams (*op. cit.*) also give a good summary of previous work in these forests, while Britton (1980) summarizes East African distribution for all species mentioned. Classification follows Britton (1980) throughout.

KALINZU FOREST

A 130 km² forest lying between 1300 and 2000 m altitude in Ankole district. Kalinzu has been fairly heavily logged in the past and is clearly now smaller than its previous extent. However, it is interesting to note the comments of Friedmann & Williams (1970a) who had reason to believe that the forest was then on the verge of clearfelling. This has not occurred, and some unexploited areas do remain. Pitsawying and small-scale felling is still widespread, however (Howard 1986).

Kalinzu is contiguous with Maramagambo Forest, part of which lies within the Queen Elizabeth National Park. Both areas have been reasonably well studied in the past but we found two species not previously recorded from either forest. PB and AM visited Kalinzu from 27 July to 11 August 1987, basing themselves at the Nkombe sawmill site in the centre of the forest. Ninety-eight forest species were recorded and 66 individuals of 23 species were netted in 2700 metre net hours of effort. The following new species were recorded:

White-naped Pigeon ***Columba albinucha*** A pair of these birds was seen regularly around heavily logged secondary forest. The white nape and red bill and feet were obvious distinguishing features. This rare pigeon was previously known in Uganda only from Kibale and Bwamba forests.

Mountain Greenbul ***Andropadus tephrolaemus*** This bird was mist-netted twice in secondary forest near the sawmill.

RWENZORI FOREST

The forest reserve extends over 1000 km², including forest above 2000 m and the whole of the Ugandan side of this famous mountain range. Rwenzori has an exceptional number of species of restricted range: these are well documented and the majority were seen on our study between 12 and 19 August 1987. Five nights were spent in forest at around

2500 m and the remainder near to the Ibanda roadhead: the aim being to add some lower altitude species to the otherwise extensive reserve list. Sixty-five species were identified and 82 individuals of 20 species were netted in 2700 metre net hours of effort. The following forest species do not seem to have been documented previously:

Long-crested Eagle ***Lophaetus occipitalis*** One seen near in lower forest in the Mubuku valley.

Tambourine Dove ***Turtur tympanistria*** Common below 2500 m.

Speckled Mousebird ***Colius striatus*** Very common.

Giant Kingfisher ***Ceryle maxima*** One seen along the Mubuku river.

White-headed Roughwing ***Psalidoprocne albiceps*** Seen on the lower forest edge by the Mubuku river.

Wattle-eye ***Platysteira cyanea*** One seen to the north of Mubuku river.

Brown-capped Weaver ***Ploceus insignis*** Pairs seen several times in treetops.

White-collared Olive-back ***Nesocharis ansorgei*** One seen on forest edge near to Ibanda.

Red-headed Bluebill ***Spermophaga ruficapilla*** Four netted in forest around 2500 m.

SANGO BAY FORESTS

A series of linked forests continuous with areas in Tanzania, of which Malabigambo is the largest. Between them lie rough grazing lands, small areas of cultivation and papyrus swamps, together forming an interesting and diverse complex. Friedmann & Williams (1969) have studied the area and their paper offers a good summary of work prior to their visit. CW visited the area from 12 to 27 July 1987 when 5360 metre net hours of mist-netting were undertaken. PB and AM returned to the area from 27 September to 3 October 1987 and achieved a further 6920 metre net hours. Both visits were based near the Kyotera road in the north of Malabigambo Forest. New records below include notable species seen in acacia and grassland around the forest, since the area is characterized by an interrelated mosaic of habitat types. A total of 162 species was seen with 293 birds of 44 species being mist-netted.

Brown Snake Eagle *Circaetus cinereus*, Great Sparrowhawk *Accipiter melanoleucus*, Tawny Eagle *Aquila rapax*, and Augur Buzzard *Buteo augur* were among an excellent variety of raptors seen in and around the forest edges. A single African Goshawk *Accipiter tachiro* was netted in Namalala.

Blue-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur afer* was seen in the study area.

Grey Parrot *Psittacus erithacus* Singles and pairs seen regularly.

Klaas' Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx klaas* One seen at Namalala and a pair on the edge of Malabigambo.

Red-chested Cuckoo *Cuculus solitarius* Heard and seen regularly.

Dwarf Kingfisher *Ispidina lecontei* One observed in Malabigambo.

Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater *Merops oreobates* Small groups were seen around Namalala.

Bearded Woodpecker *Thripias namaquus* One seen in Malabigambo.

African Broadbill *Smithornis capensis* Heard regularly in Namalala.

Blue Swallow *Hirundo atrocaerulea* Several specimens of this rare swallow were seen in grassland areas around Malabigambo.

Red-rumped Swallow *H. daurica*, African Thrush *Turdus pelios* Seen regularly along the road through northern Malabigambo.

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata* One seen on the same road on 1 October.

Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone viridis* One seen in Namalala and several in northern Malabigambo. A hybrid of this species and the Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher *T. rufiventer* was mist-netted. The specimen had the long tail and white wing markings of *viridis* and the red belly of *rufiventer*.

Blue-headed Crested Flycatcher *Trochocercus nitens* One netted in Malabigambo.

Black-headed Gonolek *Laniarius barbarus*, Grey-backed Fiscal *Lanius excubitorius* and Mackinnon's Shrike *Lanius mackinnoni* were all seen on the forest edge.

Violet-backed Starling *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster* One seen in Malabigambo.

Purple-headed Glossy Starling *Lamprotornis purpureiceps* Two seen on forest edge in northern Malabigambo.

Scarlet-chested Sunbird *Nectarinia senegalensis* A pair seen in scrub in the south of Malabigambo.

Yellow White-eye *Zosterops senegalensis* One observed in Malabigambo.

Black-crowned Waxbill *Estrilda nonnula* A pair seen at Namalala and small flocks around the southern Malabigambo.

BWAMBA (SEMLIKI) FOREST

A low-lying area of around 220 km². Ecologically it is part of the Ituri Forest of Zaïre and has long been known for its exceptional biological diversity, with many species recorded nowhere else in East Africa (van Someren & van Someren 1949, Williams 1951, Ridley *et al.* 1953, Eggling 1954, Friedmann & Williams 1971, Williams & Arlott 1980). It has suffered extensive encroachment in the last 15 years, and few large tracts of primary forest remain (Howard 1986). The presence of forest edge species among the new records leads to speculation that the degradation is actively changing the avifauna. Further research into this is needed. A rural development project is now operating in Bwamba with the aim of arresting the destruction (Howard 1987a). Forestry, agricultural and sociological researchers are working to promote sustainable development among people living in and around the forest.

CW worked in the area from 1 to 14 August 1987, and a few new forest species were recorded among the 67 identified. In this time 2830 metre net hours of mist-netting were undertaken resulting in the capture of 82 individuals of 27 species. The following species are believed not to have been recorded previously.

Joyful Greenbul ***Chlorocichla laetissima*** One individual netted.

African Thrush ***Turdus pelios*** One seen.

Black Flycatcher ***Melaenornis edolioides*** Single birds seen several times.

Cassin's Grey Flycatcher ***Muscicapa cassini*** Two seen on the river Lamia.

Northern Double-collared Sunbird ***Nectarinia preussi*** One seen.

BUGOMA FOREST

The most northerly forest in our study and one of the least disturbed. Bugoma is a large middle-altitude forest between about 1100 and 1300 m. CW studied the area from 15 to 27 August 1987. Eighty-seven birds of 27 species were mist-netted in a total of 3217 metre net hours of effort. A total of 80 forest species was identified including the following new species.

Martial Eagle ***Polemaetus bellicosus*** Seen on two separate occasions on the forest edge.

Eastern Grey Plantain Eater ***Crinifer zonurus*** Heard and seen regularly.

Speckled Mousebird ***Colius striatus*** Seen regularly in small groups.

Pygmy Kingfisher ***Ispidina picta*** One specimen netted.

Red-tailed Ant Thrush ***Neocossyphus poensis*** Netted twice.

Blue Flycatcher ***Erannornis longicauda*** Two seen.

Scarlet-chested Sunbird ***Nectarinia senegalensis*** One individual seen on the edge of the forest.

Black-headed Weaver ***Ploceus cucullatus*** One seen.

Spectacled Weaver ***P. ocularis*** One seen.

Fawn-breasted Waxbill ***Estrilda paludicola*** Groups of 2–3 regularly seen.

Grey-headed Negrofinch ***Nigrita canicapilla*** One seen at the sawmill.

African Citril ***Serinus citrinelloides*** One seen on forest edge.

CONCLUSION

All of these forests are of considerable value for birds and for other wildlife. Each has scarce species, many of which are found on the edges of their range in western Uganda. Fuller results of the Tropical Forest conservation project are reported elsewhere (Howard in press). Civil unrest means that little monitoring work or conservation effort has been attempted here in the last two decades. Wildlife enthusiasts should now strive to ensure that future inevitable and necessary development around these forests does not destroy their rich biological resources.

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